

# SENATE BILL No. 295

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## DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 9-19-13-4; IC 20-19-2-23; IC 20-30-5-5.7.

**Synopsis:** Various education matters. Directs the state board of education (state board) to establish the Indiana Innovation Council (council). Defines the membership of the council and describes certain duties of the council. Allows school corporations to apply for flexibility regarding or waivers from state and federal regulations. Requires the council to approve the applications. Extends the deadline for school corporations, charter schools, and accredited nonpublic schools to incorporate age appropriate research based instructions on child abuse and child sexual abuse to students. Requires that outlines and materials about child abuse and child sexual abuse used for instruction must be effective and promising. Removes the requirement that school buses have black reflective tape affixed on the bumpers and sides of the bus.

**Effective:** July 1, 2020.

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January 9, 2020, read first time and referred to Committee on Education and Career Development.

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Second Regular Session of the 121st General Assembly (2020)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2019 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

## SENATE BILL No. 295

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning education.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1 SECTION 1. IC 9-19-13-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.144-2019,  
2 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
3 JULY 1, 2020]: Sec. 4. A bus used to transport school children must be  
4 equipped as follows:

5 (1) At least two (2) signal lamps mounted as high and as widely  
6 spaced laterally as practicable, capable of displaying the front two  
7 (2) alternately flashing red lights located at the same level, and  
8 having sufficient intensity to be visible at five hundred (500) feet  
9 in normal sunlight.

10 ~~(2) Black reflective tape mounted on:~~

11 ~~(A) each side of the school bus;~~

12 ~~(B) the front bumper; and~~

13 ~~(C) the rear bumper.~~

14 ~~(3)~~ (2) As required by the state school bus committee under  
15 IC 20-27-3-4.

16 ~~(4)~~ (3) As required by IC 20-27-9.

17 SECTION 2. IC 20-19-2-23 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE



1 AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY  
2 1, 2020]: **Sec. 23. (a)** As used in this section, "Indiana Innovation  
3 Council" refers to the education outreach group established under  
4 subsection (b).

5 (b) Not later than October 1, 2020, the state board shall  
6 establish the Indiana Innovation Council to collaborate and  
7 develop recommendations concerning topics described in  
8 subsection (c). The Indiana Innovation Council shall consist of the  
9 following:

10 (1) A representative appointed by the chair and ranking  
11 minority member of the senate committee on education and  
12 career development.

13 (2) A representative appointed by the chair and ranking  
14 minority member of the house committee on education.

15 (3) A representative or recommended designee of the Indiana  
16 State Teachers Association.

17 (4) A representative or recommended designee of the Indiana  
18 School Boards Association.

19 (5) A representative or recommended designee of the Indiana  
20 Association of Public School Superintendents.

21 (6) A representative or recommended designee of the Indiana  
22 Association of School Principals.

23 (7) A representative or recommended designee from the  
24 department of workforce development.

25 (8) An expert in school innovation law and policy, as  
26 determined by the state board.

27 (9) A representative or recommended designee of the Small  
28 and Rural Schools Association.

29 (10) A representative or recommended designee from the  
30 Commission on Higher Education.

31 (c) Annually, the Indiana Innovation Council shall do the  
32 following:

33 (1) Identify and document existing opportunities for school  
34 corporations to request flexibility and waivers from both state  
35 and federal statutory and regulatory provisions.

36 (2) Identify and document existing state and federal statutory  
37 and regulatory provisions that cannot be exempted.

38 (3) Develop, and update, a communication and outreach plan  
39 to build awareness of the opportunities for school  
40 corporations to request flexibility and waivers described in  
41 subdivision (1), which shall be disseminated by the  
42 department to school corporations. The plan must include



examples of school corporations that are using existing flexibility to implement creative instructional and administrative practices.

(d) Not later than July 1, 2021, and July 1 each year thereafter, a school corporation may apply to the Indiana Innovation Council for flexibility regarding or waivers bypassing state and federal statutory and regulatory provisions. The application must include:

- (1) a rationale for why flexibility or waivers are needed;
- (2) a description of innovative practices the school corporation seeks to implement; and
- (3) an explanation of how the flexibility or waiver will facilitate learning.

(e) The Indiana Innovation Council shall consider and approve or deny applications from school corporations for flexibility regarding and waivers bypassing state and federal statutory and regulatory provisions.

(f) Not later than October 1, 2021, and October 1 each year thereafter, the Indiana Innovation Council shall report to the legislative council in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6:

- (1) a detailed list of all requested, approved, and denied applications for flexibility or waivers and the reason for approval or denial; and
- (2) recommendations to school corporations for additional opportunities for flexibility regarding and waivers bypassing state and federal statutory and regulatory provisions.

SECTION 3. IC 20-30-5-5.7, AS ADDED BY P.L.115-2017, SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020]: Sec. 5.7. (a) Not later than December 15, ~~2018~~, **2020**, and each December 15 thereafter, each public school, including a charter school, and accredited nonpublic school shall provide age appropriate ~~and research and evidence based~~ instruction on child abuse and child sexual abuse to students in kindergarten through grade 12.

(b) The department, in consultation with school safety specialists, ~~and school counselors,~~ **school social workers, or school psychologists**, shall identify outlines or materials for the instruction described in subsection (a) and incorporate the instruction in kindergarten through grade 12.

**(c) Any outlines and materials identified under subsection (b) must be demonstrated to be effective and promising.**

~~(c)~~ **(d)** Instruction on child abuse and child sexual abuse may be delivered by a school safety specialist, school counselor, or any other person with training and expertise in the area of child abuse and child



1 sexual abuse.

